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SECURITY INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY East Germany

TOPIC Military Information from Eberswalde

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT

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REMARKS

PREPARED 7 October 1953

25X1

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. On 4 September, the Schuetzen Kaserne in Eberswalde was about two thirds occupied by 2,500 to 3,000 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery, tank and motor transport insignia. On 23 August, about 60 soldiers left the installation toward Tiefensee. 25X1

2. On 4 September, the Artillerie Kaserne was occupied by about 3,500 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery, tank and motor transport insignia. On 29 August, 23 light armored scout cars [REDACTED] half-track vehicles occupied by soldiers and about 20 trucks occupied by 150 soldiers with full field pack and carrying boxes and equipment moved out of the installation toward Angermuender Chaussee. 25X1

On 31 August, a truck with [REDACTED] and towing a two-axle chassis was seen in motor vehicle traffic. 25X1

3. On 31 August, [REDACTED] large tent camps in the wooded area northeast of Bornemannspuhl, which were bordered toward the east by the Trampe-Eberswalde Chaussee, toward the west by Bernauer Heer Strasse, toward the north by the Sommerfeld-Spechthausen road, and toward the south by Hohenfinow and the Bornemannspuhl forestry. Motor vehicles seen in the camp area. 25X1

4. On 3 September [REDACTED] several tent camps with about 50 armored vehicles were located in the woods east of Golzow. 25X1

5. [REDACTED] determined a telephone line which came from a southerly direction and turned toward the north about 400 meters east of Golzow. Four branch lines ran toward the tent camp. 25X1

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6. Prior to 31 August, [REDACTED] EM stationed in Eberswalde had curfew at 11 p.m. and officers had to leave until reveille. On 30 August, it happened that an officer who had slapped a German girl, who did not want to dance with him at a party in the Volkshaus was slain by civilians with a chair. All civilians had left the party when the Komendatura arrived. On 2 September, the officer was given a honorary funeral which was attended by escorts of honor and a military band. Following this occurrence, all EM were restricted to quarters effective 31 August. 25X1

7. On 11 September, the Schuetzen Kaserne was partly occupied by 400 to 600 troops who wore black-bordered crimson epaulets. On 6 September, 6 trucks [REDACTED] drove to the Eberswalde railroad station, where they picked up boxes marked by a skull and brought them to the barracks installation where they were stored in bunker-shaped basements. 25X1

8. On 20 August, a fuel depot, about 500 x 1,000 meters, was located 300 to 500 meters northeast of the Biesenthal railroad station. A railroad spur track led from the railroad station on the depot.

9. Throughout the day of 7 September, several tank trucks from cantonment Britz drove to the Biesenthal fuel dump and returned to the cantonment, where the fuel was emptied into 20-liter canisters by a fatigue detail of about 25 soldiers. 25X1

10. On 25 August, cantonment Duesterwinkelbruecke was occupied by about 100 soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets. The three large, solid halls served as depots. On 25 August, 17 trucks, each towing a 76-mm gun and 6 trucks, each towing a 45-mm AT gun, drove out of the installation. Vehicles and guns had a fresh coat of paint. 25X1

11. Between 6:30 and 8 p.m. on 11 September, 20 x 76-mm field guns, 11 x 110-mm AT guns and 4 x 85-mm AA guns were unloaded at the Eberswalde railroad station.

12. On 14 August, a new ammunition depot of about 700 x 800 meters was determined in a restricted area south of the Artillerie Kaserne. Four low, temporary barracks buildings of 7 x 14 meters, 1 house for the guards and 4 watchtowers which were occupied around the clock were seen in the depot. Perimeter guards patrolled outside the installation. 25X1

13. On 28 August, the Schuetzen Kaserne was occupied by 2,000 to 3,000 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery, tank, motor transport or signal insignia. About 25 signal trucks [REDACTED] each occupied by 8 to 10 soldiers with black-bordered black epaulets and about 10 other trucks [REDACTED] occupied by 10 to 12 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia moved out of the installation toward Britz via Angermuende. On 19 August, about 30 soldiers wearing black-bordered blue epaulets with air force insignia strung a double line of copper wire from the barracks installation along Tramper Chaussee about 3 km in a southerly direction and then followed an easterly direction through the woods. The line was removed on 22 August. On 20 August, a wire-protected trench led from the barracks installation toward a southerly direction along the chaussee. On 21 August, BA-64 armored scout cars [REDACTED] and trucks [REDACTED] were seen in the barracks area. A column of signal trucks with trailers mounting telescopic masts and including trucks [REDACTED] left the installation toward Freienwalderstrasse the same day. 25X1

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14. On 21 August, the Artillerie Kaserne was occupied by about 1,500 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank and artillery insignia. Trucks [redacted] were identified in traffic to and from the installation. 1 25X1

15. On 21 August, the cantonment on Breidscheitstrasse was occupied to capacity by about 500 troops. Sentries wore black-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia. From 15 to 20 trucks were seen in the northeastern sector of the installation. Other motor vehicles identified in traffic at the billeting area [redacted] On 21 August, the restricted area on Fehring Strasse and Ebersberger Strasse was occupied to capacity. [redacted] many troops walking from the restricted area to the Schuetzen Kaserne and vice versa. Sedan [redacted] occupied by a lieutenant colonel and 1 major, both with tank insignia, was parked in front of the commissary. 1 25X1 25X1 25X1

16. On 21 August, the Schuetzen Kaserne was about 50 percent occupied by about 1,500 troops. [redacted] 90 trucks, 6 ambulances, 6 BA-64 armored scout cars [redacted] in the southern section of the installation. On 19 August, about 20 soldiers wearing black-bordered blue epaulets constructed a metallic circuit from the Schuetzen Kaserne toward a southerly direction along Tramper Chaussee, which turned off toward the east south of forest section No 99. On 21 August, about 60 soldiers wearing black-bordered blue epaulets laid an underground cable about 50 cm deep into the ground, west of the road along the metallic circuit. The cable crossed the street off the Leuenberger-Wiese forestry house and ran along the east side of the road as far as the southwestern corner of forest section No 129. The cable had a diameter of about 2 cm and was unreeled from a drum of the Siemens firm. 2 25X1 25X1

17. On 7 September, the Schuetzen Kaserne was occupied by about 2,500 troops. Firing practice was noticed in the billeting area. [redacted] 25X1

18. On 7 September, the Artillerie Kaserne was occupied by about 4,500 troops. An armored personnel carrier, 1 armored scout car and 1 half-track vehicle were seen in the billeting area. [redacted] 25X1

19. On 7 September, a tent camp quartering about 500 troops wearing black-bordered blue epaulets was determined south of the installation. On 5 September, 3 columns with a total of 60 trucks, 20 motorcycles, 1 tank truck and 600 troops wearing black-bordered blue epaulets drove toward the Eberswalde railroad station. Motor vehicles [redacted] were in the columns. 2 25X1 On 2 September, a train carrying 11 T-34 tanks, 1 JS tank and 42 armored scout cars was seen in Eberswalde, en route toward Bad Freienwalde. 3 [redacted] 25X1

21. The following observations were made at the Eberswalde railroad station: 25X1

24 August. A train coming from the direction of Templin with 8 JSU-249s including [redacted] and about 40 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery insignia was unloaded. At about 4 p.m. an ammunition train of about 45 boxcars and several empty cars with shipment labels reading "From Frankfurt/Oder to Finow" arrived at the station. A train of 10 boxcars with about 300 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, 50 trucks with AA machine guns and 3 x 45-mm AT guns passed through the station from the direction of Bernau. 4 [redacted] 25X1

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9 September. A shipment of about 150 soldiers wearing blue-bordered black epaulets, 10 trucks, field kitchen [] and billeting equipment was unloaded. The unit left toward a northerly direction. 25X1

13 September. Twelve cable reels which had been brought to the station by 12 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets and truck [] were loaded for shipment toward Frankfurt/Oder-Fuerstenberg. 25X1

11 September. A shipment of 20 trucks passed through the station from the direction of Templin and proceeded in a southerly direction. 25X1

2. On 21 August, [] a Soviet bivouac, apparently occupied by a signal unit, 2 large tents and about 20 trucks in forest section No 273, southeast of Finow. 25X1

23. On 13 September 1953, the Artillerie Kaserne was about 25 percent occupied by troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets including some with tank and artillery insignia. 25X1

24. On 13 September, the eastern section of the Schuetzen Kaserne was about 25 percent occupied. Troops were engaged in interior duty. No activity was noticed at the northeastern corner of the installation. A sentry with red-bordered black epaulets stood at the northeastern gate. 25X1

25. On 13 September, the cantonment on Breidschleitstrasse was occupied to capacity by 120 to 140 troops. Sentries wore black-bordered black epaulets and blue-bordered black epaulets. Thirteen trucks were parked on the motor vehicle parking lot. Units that picked up food ration supplies at the Eberswalde dairy between 2 and 13 September included Unit Smolin, formerly Bogdanov, Section No 5 in Bernau, Unit Boradin [] and Commissary No 2 [] 25X1

26. At about 4 p.m. on 4 September, [] trucks occupied by troops with blue-bordered black epaulets and carrying billeting equipment en route through Eberswalde, coming from the direction of Trampe and proceeding toward Finow. Traffic controls of soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets were spread over the whole town. On 5 September, a column of 14 sedans occupied by high-ranking air force officers from major upwards and another truck column with troops wearing blue-bordered black epaulets and carrying billeting equipment came from the woods on either side of the Eberswalde-Trampe road. [] Another truck [] was seen coming from the woods the same day. Several of the trucks towed trailers with cable reels of about 1.50 meters in diameter, and other trailers mounted masts which were about 3 meters long, 20 to 30 cm thick and had tapering ends. They were loaded with the top pointing toward the front of the car with a 40-degree angle of inclination. The same day, [] a metallic circuit running on poles, about two meters high, from the southeastern corner of the Schuetzen Kaserne, along the west side of the Eberswalde-Trampe road and into the woods 3 km north of Trampe. Only a few motor vehicles were noticed on 6 September, [] the trucks went toward a westerly direction as far as Zerpenschleuse via Finow and proceeded from there toward a northerly direction, apparently toward Templin. 25X1

27. On 19 September, 14 trucks and 14 x 76-mm AA guns were unloaded in Eberswalde, They departed toward Britz. 25X1

28. On 26 August, the Schuetzen Kaserne was occupied by about 4,800 troops.¹ 25X1

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29. On 26 August the two camps in the woods south of the Schuetzen Kaserne were occupied by about 1,000.²

30. On 26 August, the Artillerie Kaserne was occupied to capacity by about 4,200 troops.¹

31. Between 21 and 26 August, source determined a copper wire circuit along the road to Trampe, running on special masts, about 3.5 meters high, which were provided with a metal fork at the top. There was intensive vehicular traffic between the Schuetzen Kaserne and the camps in the woods. Troops were daily engaged in firing practice in the terrain.²

32. On 20 August, a column of 30 sedans, 9 amphibious cars and 25 trucks stood in front of the officers' club. About 60 to 700 officers, most of them wearing red-bordered black epaulets and some black-bordered black epaulets, blue-bordered black epaulets and black-bordered crimson epaulets boarded the vehicles which left toward Trampe. Bernauer Heerstrasse was blocked during that time, while 4 armored scout cars controlled the street.²

1. Comment. No essential changes appear to have occurred at the installations mentioned, except for Camp Duesterwinkelbruecke. [redacted] slight fluctuations in the occupation strength resulted from field exercises and rotations of units to Templin, and commitment in Berlin. Camp Duesterwinkelbruecke is known as quarters of the 3d Augr Regt of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army. Although it is believed possible that the camp was temporarily occupied by other troops as long as the regiment was absent, there is no confirmatory information contained in the report.

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2. Comment. Signal units were engaged in intensive training activity in the area of Eberswalde, in addition to other units which have been observed at training since July and, according to the present information, continued training at the same level until September. The present report tends to indicate that the Fourth Gds Mecz Army participated in the command-post exercise in Mecklenburg. Observations made were evaluated as follows:

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Paragraphs 13 and 16: After 19 August, establishment of an operational communication net by signal troops of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army and air force troops north and south of Eberswalde.

Paragraph 32: On 20 August, briefing in the officers' club and subsequent departure of the command-echelon personnel to the bivouacking area north of Trampe.

Paragraphs 3 to 5, 13, 22, 29, and 31: From 21 August to 7 September, intensive training activity of headquarters units and signal troops at the barracks installations and in the bivouacking areas near Golzow, Finow and Trampe.

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Paragraph 26 and two previous reports. After 4 September, westward movements from Eberswalde toward Zerpenschleuse via Finow. [] 25X1
 On 5 September, vehicle columns of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army passed through Neuruppin and proceeded toward Neustadt. [] 25X1

Paragraph 21: On 9 September, presumably completion of field exercise in the Neustadt area and return of the units which had farther advanced during the exercise and, on 13 September, loading and shipment of additional line construction equipment. [] the Fourth Gds Mecz Army from the areas of Eberswalde, north of Berlin, launched an enveloping attack toward the down stream of the Havel River, with one wing close to the Third Gds Mecz Army which was in the Angerlaende area. 25X1

3. [] Comment. The shipment toward Bad Freienwalde on 2 September, which probably carried back to their posts tank units of the division from Berlin or Templin, was previously observed [] 25X1
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4. [] Comment. According to the tank turret numbers, the train from the direction of Templin on 24 August carried a unit of the 82d Gds Hv Tank SP Regt of the 6th Gds Mecz Div, which returned from firing practice at Templin. The train which, on the same day, was observed en route toward Bernau, [] is believed to have been identical with train [] from Jueterbog to Bernau, which probably carried back to their post AAA machine guns units of the abovementioned division. 25X1

5. [] Comment. The officers mentioned in paragraph 25 are known, except for air force officer Smolin (fmu). []

6. [] Comment. On 19 September, medium AAA units, presumably of the 63d AAA Div (US), are believed to have returned to their quarters in Britz, possibly coming from Wustrow. []

7. [] 25X1

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